In the Claims:

Please enter the following amended claim set:

1.   **(original)**   A budget information and creation system comprising:

a processor having means for connecting with a network;

a budgetary information database accessible by the processor via the network, the database comprising numerical data and textual identifiers imported from a plurality of remote sites, each site housing data for an aspect of a budget for a plurality of subdivisions of a unitary organization, the numerical data extracted from the remote sites into a spreadsheet application, the textual identifiers extracted from the remote sites into a word processing application, the database configured into a coherent hierarchical format having accessible links to budget data for the plurality of subdivisions;

a budgetary information software system resident on the processor comprising:

a code segment for interfacing with a user remote from the database over a network;

a code segment for permitting the user to create a budget for one of the subdivisions using at least some of the numerical data and textual identifiers;

a code segment for transmitting the created budget to a predetermined remote site via the network; and

a code segment for presenting to the user a link for automatically notifying a contact agent within the organization that the created budget has been transmitted to the predetermined remote site, the contact agent appropriate to the subdivision.

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2.   **(New)**   A budget information system comprising:

a budgetary information database comprising numerical data and textual identifiers imported from a plurality of remote sites, each site housing data for an aspect of a budget for a plurality of subdivisions of a unitary organization, the numerical data extracted from the remote sites into a spreadsheet application, the textual identifiers extracted from the remote sites into a word processing application, the database configured into a coherent hierarchical format having accessible links to budget data for the plurality of subdivisions;

means for receiving a keyword selected by a user remote from the database over a network;

means for matching data in the database with the keyword and for outputting at least one subdivision related to the keyword;

means for receiving a user selection of at least one subdivision for tracking;

means for formatting and outputting matched budget data and a textual identifier found from the database search commensurate with the selected subdivision; and

means for automatically updating the budget data and textual identifier of the selected subdivision upon subsequent user access.

3.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 2, wherein the system further comprises software installable on a processor, the software adapted to output a list of database subdivisions, the keyword selectable from the list of subdivisions, and to perform the database search.

4.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 3, wherein the database subdivisions comprise government agencies and the budget data comprise fiscal year budgeted amounts.

5.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 4, wherein a first database subdivision comprises a plurality of line items, each line item having a separate budget, the sum of the line items equaling a total budget for the first database subdivision.

6.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 3, wherein the software comprises:

means for importing the output budget data into a spreadsheet application;

means for importing text material related to the output budget data into a word processing program; and

means for correlating the text material and the output budget data for presentation on a unitary screen.

7.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 6, wherein the output budget data are selected from a group consisting of previous time period data, current time period data, and proposed future time period data.

8.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 6, wherein the software further comprises means for calculating and presenting a percentage of a total budget appropriated for each subdivision.

9.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 6, wherein the software further comprises means for importing with the budget data a number of personnel positions associated with each subdivision.

10.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 6, wherein the software further comprises means for importing with the budget data a contact agent associated with each subdivision, and for presenting a name of the contact agent and contact information for the contact agent.

11.   **(New)**   The budget information system recited in Claim 10, wherein the presented contact information comprises a direct contact electronic linkage therewith.

12.   **(New)**   A method for accessing and searching a remote budget database for data in a desired category, the method comprising the steps of:

entering an electronic user site remote from the user, the user site adapted to present a list of budgetary subdivisions;

electronically selecting one of the subdivisions, each subdivision electronically linked to budget data therefor;

viewing the subdivision budget data, the budget data selected from a group consisting of previous time period data, current time period data, and proposed future time period data;

if desired, selecting an option to view more detailed data on the subdivision budget data;

if desired, selecting an option to view additional information on the subdivision in textual form; and

if desired, selecting an option to create an electronic file containing a link to a selected subdivision for tracking budget data therefor, a subsequent accessing of the created electronic file automatically causing an updating of the selected subdivision tracked budget data and a presentation thereof.

13. (New) The method recited in Claim 12, wherein the subdivision data comprise budget data as proposed by a plurality of entities.

14. (New) The method recited in Claim 12, wherein the additional information in textual form comprises spending authorization information and justification for funding.

15. (New) The method recited in Claim 12, wherein the budget database comprises governmental funding data and the subdivisions comprise government agencies.

16.   (New)   The method recited in Claim 12, further comprising the steps, following with subdivision budget data viewing step, of:

    viewing a breakdown of the selected subdivision budget data into line items;

    electronically selecting a desired line item; and

    viewing the line item budget data.

17.   (New)   A method for building a budget information system comprising the steps of:

    accessing from a remote site a database containing raw budget data and textual information on a plurality of budgetary subdivisions;

    compiling a list of titles of at least some of the budgetary subdivisions;

    creating a first computer screen containing the list of titles;

    retrieving a numerical record on a selected budget subdivision into a spreadsheet application;

    retrieving a textual record on the selected budget subdivision into a word processing application;

    formatting a second screen containing the numerical record and the textual record in tabular form;

    providing a first link between a title of the subdivision on the first screen with the second screen;

    creating a third screen containing an option to select at least one of the titles for tracking budget data on the respective subdivision;

providing a second link between the respective subdivision and the budget data therefor;

creating an electronic folder containing the second link;

creating a fourth screen containing the respective subdivision and updated budget data therefor.

18.   **(New)**   The system recited in Claim 2, further comprising means for creating an electronic folder containing an electronic link to the selected subdivision.

19.   **(New)**   The system recited in Claim 18, further comprising means for receiving user comments and for storing the received user comments in the electronic folder.

20.   **(New)**   The method recited in Claim 12, further comprising the step of, if desired, entering user comments into the created electronic file.